

## Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY CANBERRA PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 115253

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, AS, US

SUBJECT: SUBJECT: PERIODIC US-AUSTRALIAN DISCUSSIONS OF  
POLICY ISSUES

FOR AMBASSADOR GREEN FROM SNEIDER

REFS: CANBERRA 1723

1. WITH ELECTION RESULTS NOW VIRTUALLY FINAL, IT WOULD  
APPEAR TIMELY TO GET ON WITH WORKING OUT SERIES OF CON-  
SULTATIONS WITH AUSTRALIANS. ROY FERNANDEZ HAS ALSO  
APPROACHED ME ON THESE ON BASIS OF LETTER FROM RENOUF.

2. MY TENTATIVE THOUGHTS, SUBJECT VERY MUCH TO YOUR  
COMMENTS, ARE ALONG FOLLOWING LINES:

A) SECURITY CONSULTATIONS. THESE CONSULTATIONS ARE  
ESSENTIALLY IN FULFILLMENT OF NORTH WEST CAPE AGREEMENT  
AND HOPEFULLY WILL AVOID ISSUE OF MINISTERIAL CONSULTATIONS  
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MOST DIFFICULT TO ARRANGE HERE. PRITCHETT IS ANXIOUS TO

ARRANGE THESE SEPARATE FROM ANY DIRECT TALKS WITH FOREIGN MINISTRY FOR OPTICAL REASONS, AND WE CAN WORK THEM OUT IN MOST INFORMAL FASHION. I GATHER ALSO FROM FERNANDEZ THAT DFA WANTS TO PARTICIPATE, WHICH POSES NO PROBLEMS WITH US, SINCE STATE WILL TAKE LEADING ROLE. AUSTRALIAN EMBASSY INDICATES PRITCHETT WOULD LIKE THESE IN EARLY

SEPTEMBER AND WE HAVE TENTATIVELY DISCUSSED DATES OF SEPTEMBER 3-6, BUT I HAVE NOT REPEAT NOT CLEARED THIS WITH PM OR ISA AS YET. I WILL DO SO ONLY AFTER GETTING YOUR COMMENTS.

B) ANZUS OFFICIAL TALKS. YOU WILL RECALL WE SUGGESTED THESE TALKS FOR OCTOBER IN WASHINGTON. WE ARE PREPARED TO PUSH AHEAD WITH THIS UNLESS YOU FORESEE ANY PROBLEMS.

C) POLICY TALKS. BASICALLY WE ARE DISPOSED TO DIRECT BILATERAL POLICY TALKS WITH DFA, ALONG LINES SET FORTH REFTEL. THESE NEED NOT CUT ACROSS SECURITY CONSULTATIONS IN ANY SIGNIFICANT WAY AND WOULD SEEM TO HAVE PARTICULAR VALUE. WE ARE THINKING OF NEXT ROUND LATE THIS YEAR OR EARLY NEXT YEAR WITH EITHER WASHINGTON OR CANBERRA AS VENUE.

3. ONCE I GET YOUR COMMENTS, WE CAN PURSUE THESE FURTHER WITH OTHERS INVOLVED AND WITH AUSTRALIAN EMBASSY.

4. ON ANOTHER SUBJECT, WE WILL BE ARRANGING ORDERS FOR YOU MID-SUMMER, AS SUGGESTED IN YOUR LETTER OF MAY 17. KISSINGER

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